

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are pending in the present application. The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 5-8. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The drawings have been amended in accordance with the suggestions of the Office Action of November 10, 2004. The amended drawings are marked "Replacement Sheet" as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d).

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0178034 to Gardner et al. (hereinafter Gardner) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0016825 to Pugliese et al. (hereinafter Pugliese) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,327,573 to Walker et al. (hereinafter Walker).

Gardner presents a rationalization of business in an airline travel distribution enterprise through combining the sales transaction and usage transaction for a centralized transaction. Pugliese proposes a paperless airline seat reservation system implemented through an electronic business system. Walker proposes a system to reward frequent customers utilizing a single account card held by a representative holder, but rewards are awarded for all participants joined in the single account card according to each of their corresponding shares.

In contrast, the present application proposes a detailed business treatment system for mileage service between an airline company and an enterprise which desires to obtain credit for the mileage for all airline trips by its employees paid for by the enterprise.

Comparing Gardner, Pugliese, and Walker, with the present application, the applied references do not describe a distinction as claimed herein regarding to whom air mileage belongs, for instance, to a passenger of an airline company or to an enterprise employing the passenger.

In particular, claim 1 relates to a system for performing a mileage service depending on a distance traveled by a vehicle. Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, mileage information storing means for **subtracting miles included in said boarding information from accumulated miles of said boarding customer if said boarding customer is employed by the corporation registered for the corporate mileage service** based on said corporation vs. individual relationship information transmitted from said corporation vs. individual relationship information database device, **adding the subtracted miles included in said boarding information to miles of the corporation**, and reflecting the result of the subtraction and the addition of the miles included in said boarding information in said mileage information database

The Examiner admits that the feature of subtracting the miles from an account and adding them to another account is not discussed in either of Gardner or Pugliese. (Office Action, page 9, lines 8 et. seq.) The Examiner asserts that this feature is disclosed in Walker. However, the section cited by the Examiner apparently refers to a single account being associated with a plurality of account members. (Walker; col. 6, lines 3-5). The only reference to subtracting in Walker relates to subtracting miles from one account after a purchase transaction. (Walker; col. 11, lines 55-65). Walker does not disclose, or even suggest, subtracting miles **from** a boarding customer and **adding the subtracted miles to a corporate account**. Therefore none of the cited references disclose the feature of subtracting the miles from an account and adding them to another account. Since none of the references disclose, or even suggest, this feature, the combination of the references does not render the subject matter of claim 1 obvious.

Claim 7 recites a similar subtracting feature as recited in claim 1, and therefore claim 7 is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

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Claim 2 relates to a system for performing a mileage service depending on a distance traveled by a vehicle covered by the mileage service. The system according to claim 2 includes, *inter alia*, means for determining whether miles earned by a usage of the mileage service or the payment of the consideration belong to the corporation or the individual, based on said selection, and means for storing the earned miles selectively.

None of the cited reference discloses, or even suggests, this feature, and therefore, the references, alone or in combination, do not render claim 2 unpatentable.

Claim 3 depends from claim 2 and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 2 is allowable. Claims 5 and 6 recite a similar determining feature as recited in claim 2, and therefore claims 5 and 6 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 2 is allowable.

Claim 8 relates to a method of performing a mileage service depending on a distance traveled by a vehicle covered by the mileage service. The method according to claim 8, includes the feature of, *inter alia*, if the vehicle covered by the mileage service is reserved for the business of the corporation, giving earned miles to the corporation, and if the vehicle covered by the mileage service is not reserved for the business of the corporation, giving earned miles to the employee.

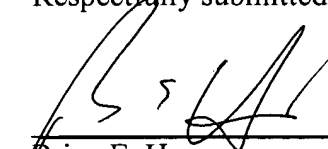
It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited reference discloses, or even suggests, this feature, and therefore, the references, alone or in combination, do not render claim 8 unpatentable.

In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

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Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please find enclosed copies of figures 3, 5, 6, and 7, marked as "Replacement Sheet," for the approval of the Examiner. The copies of figures 3, 5, 6, and 7 include the amendments presented in the amendment dated February 10, 2005.